







2407  
ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, AUDITORS,

AND

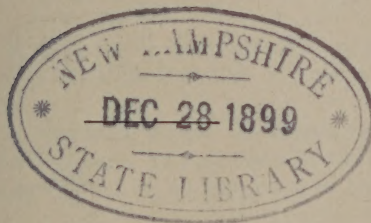
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF ACWORTH,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

MARCH 1, 1882.



CONCORD :

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1882.

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# STATEMENT

OF ACCOUNTS OF THE TOWN OF ACWORTH, AS EXHIBITED BY THE SELECTMEN, FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1882.

## *Orders drawn for Payment of Notes and Interest.*

1881. Order to—

April	1.	John Graham, to pay interest on note,	\$45.14
		Fanny Hull, " note in part,	15.00
	4.	C. M. Woodbury, to pay interest on note,	53.00
		Lusina Crosby, " "	24.00
		Lucinda Finlay, " "	48.00
		J. A. Wood, " "	92.37
		Daniel Nye, " "	22.59
		Daniel Nye, " "	16.00
	9.	Solon Blanchard, to pay note and interest,	524.26
May	12.	Fanny Hull, to pay note in part,	10.00
Aug.	13.	" " "	10.00
Sept.	24.	" " "	15.00
Nov.	3.	D. S. Honey, C. F. Gassett's note in full,	53.20
	13.	Fanny Hull, for balance of note and interest,	23.73
Dec.	1.	E. L. Sarsons, to pay D. Nye's note,	38.50
		John Graham, to pay note in part,	72.00
	31.	Nancy Houston, to pay note in full,	64.60

1882.

Jan.	31.	Lucinda Finlay, to pay note in full,	1,240.00
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			\$2,367.39

*Orders drawn for Breaking Roads.*

1881. Order to—

March	1.	E. A. Kingsbury, for breaking roads,	\$2.55
	2.	D. J. Eaton,	6.47
	3.	M. D. Gould,	5.05
	8.	J. S. Gove,	28.57
		J. W. Baldwin,	10.90
		J. H. Clark,	2.55
		D. C. Walker,	7.05
		John D. Kemp,	3.60
		A. G. Graham,	10.52
	28.	George Steele,	2.88
April	9.	J. A. Allen, Jr.,	13.95
	22.	Joseph Copland,	1.00
		L. F. Davis,	3.38
		Daniel Clark,	7.69
	25.	G. W. Potter,	8.50
		Lyman Buswell,	10.45
		A. A. Mathewson,	2.55
		F. M. Metcalf,	4.62
		J. M. Davis,	1.25
	30.	D. B. Buswell,	5.42
		J. A. Allen,	4.00
June	4.	Edwin Green,	4.95
		J. H. Kemp,	2.40
July	12.	H. D. Wallace,	1.80
Aug.	20.	M. V. B. Peck,	2.88
		C. E. Gay,	1.97
Sept.	19.	Roswell Walker,	21.50
		J. Elliot Smith,	3.30
	21.	H. K. Rugg,	8.00
		O. C. Smith,	8.27
	26.	W. S. Lakin,	4.49
Nov.	9.	Marcellus M. Morse,	4.00
		J. R. Crossett,	8.55
	22.	Fred N. Howe,	.66
		Wilson E. Harris,	5.28
Dec.	1.	Bernard Shannon,	2.52
		George Smith,	8.30
		Albert Buswell,	3.48
		A. H. Church,	6.32
		Charles E. Blanchard,	3.60



## 1881. Order to—

Dec.	1.	George Bailey, for breaking roads,	\$2.64
	5.	J. Sumner Gove, “	3.45
		J. T. Hatch, “	1.68
		Harvey Howard, “	4.82
	20.	H. Murdough, “	4.50
		Isaac Newton, “	3.90
		John Duchame, “	3.21
		J. T. Mitchell, “	5.00
		Jona. Woodbury, “	1.80

## 1882.

Jan.	14.	Joseph Hayward, “	2.88
	21.	S. Symonds, repairing and breaking roads,	2.50
Feb.	27.	E. G. Howe, breaking roads and cutting bushes,	3.75
		E. L. Sarsons, breaking roads in District No. 31,	10.68
		F. H. McLaughlin, for breaking roads,	2.52
		J. E. Smith, “	5.85
		Harvey Howard, “	3.30
		J. N. Davis, “	7.65
		W. M. Pettingill, “	2.25
		C. E. Blanchard, “	18.15
		L. F. Davis, for breaking Claremont road,	2.85
		F. B. Trow, for breaking roads,	39.17
		Chas. E. Gay, “	4.10
		D. C. Anderson, “	3.30
		O. R. Kemp, “	5.71
		J. M. Reed, “	1.65
		Geo. Bailey, “	3.07
		Joseph Buswell, “	23.43
	28.	Marcellus M. Morse, for breaking roads,	3.37
		R. Hilliard, “	6.53
		S. O. Taylor, “	14.25
		J. W. Baldwin, “	14.28
		A. G. Graham, “	11.30
		Horace Dexter, “	7.15
		Daniel Gay, “	2.55
		H. Murdough, “	6.67
		A. Lincoln, “	3.15
		Samuel Slader, “	12.90
		W. B. Reed, “	4.16

1882. Order to—

Feb.	28.	George P. Johnson, for breaking roads,	\$15.25
		W. C. Neal,	8.70
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			\$529.34

*Orders Drawn for Repairing Roads and Bridges.*

1881. Order to—

March	8.	W. K. Church, for repairing road scraper,	\$ .65
		R. J. Carey, for repairing highway,	2.40
		A. H. Church,	6.00
July	21.	J. L. McKeen, for building bridge near Adams's saw-mill, and materials,	148.21
		R. S. Morrison, for bridge plank,	5.76
Sept.	3.	S. B. Stowell, for plank and labor on bridge,	2.25
		J. M. Davis, for timber and labor on bridge,	7.50
	13.	J. B. Crossett, for labor on bridge,	24.70
		Geo. W. Buss, for timber and labor fur- nished,	12.65
	26.	Geo. W. Buss, for repairing road near Cambridge Hollow,	25.65
		Horace Richardson, for repairing Dodge Brook road,	27.62
Dec.	1.	Asa Dodge, for repairing scraper,	9.09
		W. C. Neal, for repairing highway,	5.50
		Fred B. Trow,	10.50
		A. G. Graham, for repairing highway near A. W. Barney's,	23.00
		H. G. Perham, for bridge plank,	5.55
	3.	P. W. Pettingill, for breaking and re- pairing road,	4.50
	17.	R. S. Morrison, for plank and lumber,	8.33
	20.	J. B. Crossett, for repairing bridge and putting up railing,	16.60
		J. M. Reed, for plank and labor on bridges,	42.56
1882.			
Jan.	14.	W. M. Huntley, for timber for railing,	24.20
		R. Cunningham, for cutting bushes and repairing sluices,	5.00



## 1882. Order to—

Jan.	14.	Daniel Nye, for bridge timber and labor,	\$7.75
		G. W. Buss, for lumber and labor on highway,	2.00
		H. S. Strickland, for work on bridge,	1.25
		William Brooks, for repairing highway,	6.00
Feb.	27.	R. Cunningham, “	3.00
		F. S. Trow, for damage to plough on road,	4.50
			<hr/>
			\$442.72

*Orders Drawn for the Support of Paupers.*

## 1881. Order to—

March	21.	G. W. Lathrop, for support of Helen L. Cram at the N. H. Asylum,	\$51.49
		G. W. Lathrop, for supplies furnished S. W. Blodgett,	12.00
		Lydia Howe, for keeping Phebe Young 5 weeks,	15.00
June	18.	Dr. C. A. Allen, for doctoring Phebe Young,	11.00
	25.	S. Huntley, for keeping Jane Blanchard 17 4-7 weeks,	35.14
		G. W. Lathrop, cash for support of Helen L. Cram,	54.61
		G. G. Livingston, for boarding Phebe Young 4 weeks,	6.00
Aug.	20.	Dr. C. A. Allen, for doctoring Nancy Sweet,	5.41
		Dr. C. A. Allen, for doctoring Jane Blanchard,	1.75
Sept.	2.	S. W. Blodgett, for boarding Nancy Sweet 32 weeks,	24.00
		S. Huntley, for board'g Jane Blanchard 9 5-7 weeks,	19.42
		Betsey T. Clough, for board and care of Almira Clough 32 weeks,	96.00
	24.	G. G. Livingston, for boarding Phebe Young to date,	18.00
	29.	G. W. Lathrop, cash paid for support of Helen L. Cram,	53.38

## 1881. Order to—

Oct.	11.	S. Huntley, for board'g Jane Blanchard 4 1-7 weeks,	\$8.28
Dec.	1.	Wm. Brooks, for goods furnished Laureston Keyes,	17.40
	31.	G. W. Lathrop, cash for support of Helen L. Cram at the N. H. Asylum for quarter ending at this date,	57.43

## 1882.

Jan.	14.	A. P. Howe, for keeping Fanny Hull 6 weeks,	9.00
		Dr. C. A. Allen, for doctoring Jane Blanchard,	5.00
	21.	Betsey T. Clough, for keeping Almira Clough 20 weeks,	60.00
		S. W. Blodgett, for keeping Nancy Sweet 20 weeks,	15.60
	24.	W. J. Stevens, for keeping Phebe Young 1 week,	1.50
Feb.	21.	G. W. Lathrop, for goods furnished S. W. Blodgett,	4.00
		Dr. C. A. Allen, for doctoring Polly Blodgett,	17.00
	28.	Samuel Slader, for 6 cords of wood for S. W. Blodgett,	15.00
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			\$612.81

Amount refunded by county for support of county paupers,	287.44
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Expense of town paupers the past year,	\$325.37
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*Orders Drawn for Miscellaneous Purposes.*

## 1881. Order to—

March	7.	G. W. Lathrop, cash paid Ira Colby for counsel the past year,	\$19.00
	8.	Henry Heard, for damage to sheep by dogs,	6.00
		W. H. Barney, for watering-trough,	3.00
		J. B. Tracy, for damage to sheep by dogs,	51.00
	15.	G. A. Wood, for printing town reports,	26.00

## 1881. Order to—

April	21.	C. A. Allen, for school apparatus (out of literary fund),	\$16.00
June	4.	G. W. Buss, for going to Newport, for travel and expenses,	4.65
	18.	G. W. Lathrop, for two invoice books,	18.00
July	12.	G. W. Lathrop, for stationery and postage,	5.00
Aug.	5.	L. R. Hardy, for school-house tax in District No. 12,	75.00
	23.	G. W. Lathrop, cash paid damage to R. L. & C. S. Dinsmore, sustained on highway,	15.00
Sept.	3.	G. W. Buss, for guide-boards and posts,	12.50
	13.	R. Kennedy, for watering-trough,	3.00
	19.	R. Walker, “ “	3.00
	26.	G. W. Lathrop, for witness' fees in Noyes case,	27.21
		L. R. Hardy, balance school-house tax in District No. 12,	75.30
Oct.	31.	J. S. Morrison, for watering-trough,	3.00
		W. F. Loomis, “	3.00
		George Bailey, for running town line,	1.50
		C. A. Hull, expense of burial of Jane Blanchard,	4.00
Dec.	1.	E. L. Sarsons, for abatement of J. F. Dickey's poll tax for 1881,	1.45
		E. L. Sarsons, for abatement of F. B. Stowell's dog tax,	1.00
		E. L. Sarsons, for abatement of Ezra A. Buss's poll tax for 1881,	1.45
		E. L. Sarsons, for abatement of F. J. Straw's poll tax for 1881,	1.45
		Betsey T. Clough, for damage to sheep by dogs,	3.00
		M. P. Thornton, for mowing the old cemetery,	3.00
	3.	D. S. Honey, for wood for town-hall,	2.00
1882.			
Jan.	24.	G. W. Lathrop, for witness' fees in Noyes case,	30.00
Feb.	1.	W. J. Stevens, for damage to sheep by dogs,	3.50



## 1882. Order to—

Feb. 21.	G. W. Leighton, for damage to sheep by dogs,	\$3.25
	W. H. Barney, for watering-trough,	3.00
27.	E. L. Sarsons, for abatement of W. B. Wood's, H. A. Moore's, P. G. Wells's, A. Bramar's, and S. W. Blodgett's taxes for 1881,	8.13
	Dr. C. A. Allen, for returning births and deaths,	5.00
	J. Buswell, for watering-trough,	3.00
	B. P. Wood, for damage to sheep by dogs,	3.00
	H. G. Perham, for damage to sheep by dogs,	21.00
	C. A. Milliken, for damage to sheep by dogs,	15.00
	C. J. Davis, for ringing bells the past year,	10.00
28.	G. W. Buss, stationery and postage,	1.86
	G. W. Buss, cash paid for bounties,	1.10
	Oscar J. Hemphill, for damage on highway,	7.00
	H. W. Parker, for services as counsel in Noyes case,	35.00
	Ira Colby, for services as counsel in Noyes case,	49.00
	G. W. Lathrop, services and expenses in Noyes case,	18.50
	G. W. Lathrop, for cash paid as witness fees in the Noyes case,	25.00
	W. C. Neal, for repairing sexton's tools,	1.50
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		\$628.35
Amount of dog tax for 1881,		\$70.00
Amount of orders for damage to sheep by dogs, less the orders to H. Heard and J. B. Tracey, amounting to \$57, drawn March 8th, and paid from the dog tax of 1880,		48.75
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Leaving in favor of the dogs,		\$21.25

*Orders drawn to pay Town Officers.*

1881. Order to—

March	8.	J. A. Wood, for services as supervisor,	\$6.00
		Lyman Buswell, “	6.00
April	25.	E. L. Sarsons, services as collector for 1880,	48.00
		G. W. Lathrop, services as selectman in part,	30.00
		G. W. Buss, services as selectmen in part,	35.00
		J. M. Davis, services as selectman in part,	30.00
Sept.	19.	G. W. Buss, services as selectman in part,	9.00
Dec.	1.	W. C. Neal, services as sexton in part,	48.00

1882.

Feb.	28.	G. W. Buss, services as selectman,	8.75
		J. M. Davis, “	20.25
		G. W. Lathrop, services as selectman in full,	40.00
		C. A. Allen, services as superintending school committee,	50.00
		John Graham, services as town treasurer,	25.00
		William Brooks, services as town-clerk,	25.00
		J. H. Dickey, services as auditor,	6.00
		J. M. Davis, services as overseer of the poor,	4.25
		W. C. Neal (bal.), services as sexton,	32.00
			<hr/> \$423.25

*Recapitulation.*

Amount of orders to pay the town debt,	\$2,367.39
“ for breaking roads,	529.34
“ for repairing roads and bridges,	442.72
“ for support of paupers,	612.81
“ for miscellaneous purposes,	628.35
“ to pay town officers,	423.25
“ for support of schools,	1,454.12
Amount of highway receipts returned,	66.65
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\$6,524.63	

Amount brought over,	\$6,524.63
From amount of orders debit the orders of Henry Heard and J. B. Tracy, drawn March 8, 1881, for damage to sheep, and paid from dog tax of 1880, amounting to	57.00
	<hr/> \$6,467.63

*Assets.*

1881.		
Amount in treasury March 8, 1881, as per au- ditor's report,		\$881.65
April 1.	Received of E. L. Sarsons, interest on note,	1.70
	Borrowed of Lizzie Holden,	300.00
	" Hiram N. Hayward,	100.00
	" J. A. Wood,	300.00
	" Mary A. Morse,	50.00
	" Daniel Nye,	38.00
	25. Amount of tax bill for 1881, less state and county tax,	3,627.85
	28. School-house tax in district No. 12,	150.30
June 20.	Cash received from state as bounties,	5.60
Sept. 13.	Received from county for keeping county paupers,	191.16
	Borrowed of Belinda P. Osgood,	100.00
1882.		
Jan. 13.	Received of R. Hilliard, for clapboards,	1.00
	" savings bank tax from state,	1,008.75
	" Literary fund, "	90.30
Feb. 1.	" from county for keeping coun- ty paupers,	96.28
	28. " costs, recovered in the Noyes case,	102.12
	Cash of E. L. Sarsons, interest on taxes for 1881,	10.04
		<hr/>
	Whole amount of assets,	\$7,054.75
	" orders drawn,	6,467.63
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	Amount in treasury March 1, 1882,	\$587.12



*List of Notes by the Town.*

Note to J. A. Wood,	\$1,100.00
C. M. Woodbury,	1,325.00
Lusina Crosby,	600.00
Daniel Nye,	282.46
L. F. Hayward,	200.00
Emory P. Heard,	90.00
Daniel Nye,	200.00
Elma A. Clark,	27.32
S. Symonds,	500.00
C. A. Kennedy,	38.00
E. L. Kennedy,	38.00
Samuel Harding,	500.00
H. N. Hayward,	100.00
Lizzie Holden,	300.00
J. A. Wood,	300.00
Mary A. Morse,	50.00
Belinda P. Osgood,	100.00
John Graham,	2,400.00
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	\$8,150.78
Accrued interest estimated,	300.00
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Amount of notes and interest,	\$8,450.78
Amount in treasury deducted,	587.12
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Present debt of the town,	\$7,863.66
Debt of the town reported March 8, 1881,	8,632.75
Present debt,	7,863.66
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Decrease of debt the past year,	\$769.09

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. DICKEY, *Auditor.*

March 1, 1882.

# INVENTORY OF THE TOWN OF ACWORTH, N. H., APRIL 7, 1881.

	No.	Appraisal.	Average per head.
Taxable polls,	269	\$26,900	
horses,	323	13,678	\$42.35
oxen,	146	7,016	48.05
cows,	519	10,781	20.77
young cattle,	393	7,046	17.93
sheep,	3,612	7,763	2.12
hogs,	7	50	7.14
carriages,	17	9.30	54.70
dogs,	70		
Stock in banks,			6,100.00
Stock in public funds,			3,530.00
Stock in trade,			3,450.00
Money on hand and at interest,			21,815.00
Mills and carding machines,			4,400.00
Land and buildings,			265,591.00
Savings bank deposits (returned),			100,875.00

## *Taxes Required to be Assessed.*

State tax,	\$948.00
County tax,	989.39
For the support of schools,	1,329.50
To defray town charges,	2,000.00

Rate of taxation is \$1.45 on \$100 in money, and 38 cents in labor on highway.

*The following Persons were chosen Town Officers, March 8, 1881:*

*Town-Clerk*—William Brooks.

*Selectmen*—George W. Lathrop, George W. Buss, James M. Davis.

*Town Treasurer*—John Graham.

*Superintending School Committee*—Carl A. Allen.

*Auditor*—Jonathan H. Dickey.

*Overseers of the Poor*—George W. Lathrop, George W. Buss, James M. Davis.

*Fence-Viewers*—George W. Lathrop, George W. Buss, James M. Davis.

*Highway Surveyors*—Winslow C. Neal, Charles E. Blanchard, Sumner O. Taylor, George P. Johnson, Daniel Gay, Joseph Buswell, James M. Reed, Horace Richardson, George Houston, James A. Dickey, Fred B. Trow, Azel H. Church, Samuel Slader, James M. Davis, Harvey Howard, George H. Dodge, Rufus Hilliard, James Forsyth, Horace Dexter, Joab N. Davis, Orlin R. Kemp, Charles M. Barrett, Francis Ellingwood, Samuel K. Upton, James H. Reed, Fred L. Gould, Watson M. Pettingill, Dustin G. Osgood, Charles M. Woodbury, Solon S. King, Eleazer L. Sarsons.

*Sealer of Weights and Measures*—Milton P. Thornton.

*Weighers of Hay*—Luther F. Davis, Homer D. C. Tracy, Jacob B. Richardson.

*Surveyors of Lumber*—Robert S. Morrison, William F. Hilliard, Francis Buss, George Bailey.

*Pound-Keeper*—David H. Whipple.

*Constables*—George Bailey, Albert A. Clark.

*Measurers of Wood*—Dean C. George, George Bailey.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE W. LATHROP,  
GEORGE W. BUSS,  
JAMES M. DAVIS,

*Selectmen of Acworth.*



REPORT  
OF THE  
Superintending School Committee  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 14, 1882.

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DISTRICT No. 1.

W. C. Neal, . . . . . Committee.

The summer term of the Primary school was taught by Miss Nell L. Woodbury. The attendance was excellent, 18 of the 24 pupils having no absence marks. Good order was maintained, and the classification was better than ever before. The classes were well drilled, and made good advancement in their studies. Singing added much to the appearance of the school.

Miss Nell L. Keyes\* taught both fall and winter terms. The room was somewhat crowded during the fall, which made the school seem less quiet than otherwise. The good classification of the summer was maintained throughout the year, and the attendance was also good.

The little ones were well managed, and at both examinations it was surprising to find so much had been accomplished. The classes in penmanship and arithmetic showed perhaps the best results.

After three successful terms in this school, and having

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\* Deceased

endeared herself to her pupils by her pleasant ways and earnest methods, it is sad to know that we shall never see this teacher's kindly face among us again; but we shall always delight to remember her as she was, and the good she has done.

In the Grammar department, Miss Ella E. Straw taught the summer term. The school was re-classified and graded as far as possible at the commencement of the term. Owing to this classification some of the classes were less uniform in standing than formerly, but the advantage of fewer classes more than compensated for the lack in uniformity. Miss Straw maintained her former good reputation as a teacher, and the examination showed an excellent school in every respect.

Miss A. S. Dudley, of Exeter, had charge of this school for the remaining two terms of the year. Miss Dudley is a teacher of experience, a ripe scholar, and with superior abilities as an instructor. She gave her whole time and talents to her school, and never allowed her pupils to dismiss a subject until it was thoroughly mastered. The school was well graded, and, in rank of studies, thoroughness of work, and general high standing, will compare favorably with the average high school.

#### DISTRICT No. 2.

J. H. Reed, . . . . . Committee.

Miss Minnie E. Davis taught the summer term. The attendance was almost perfect, and the advancement rapid. A little too much haste was shown in passing over some branches. Oral lessons were given, and with very satisfactory results. The school was very quiet and well managed.

The fall term was under the instruction of Miss Juliette A. Osgood, an experienced and successful teacher. Oral and blackboard exercises were freely given, the classes well arranged, and the entire school work thoroughly done. Singing was also taught. The citizens showed a good

amount of interest, and by their hearty support aided much the general success of the school.

### DISTRICT No. 3.

F. S. Trow, . . . . . Committee.

Miss Sara E. Potter taught her first term here during the summer, and with good success. The school was orderly, lessons well committed, and general progress good. The classes in arithmetic and geography made an especially good appearance at examination. Attendance very fair.

Miss Belle E. Washburn, of Marlow, concluded the year with a winter term of ten weeks. Miss W. won the affection of her pupils, and gave excellent satisfaction to the district.

Good progress was made, and the school was well managed. The primer class showed wonderful improvement at the close of school. Attendance injured from sickness.

### DISTRICT No. 4.

No summer term. Miss Helen W. Farnum, of Unity, taught the fall term. The school numbered only four pupils, but the teacher gave her entire time to the work, and the result was an excellent school. Your committee was unable to be present at the examination.

Miss E. E. Straw taught the school for nine weeks during the winter. Miss Straw is so well known as a teacher that comments upon her school are unnecessary.

Singing was made quite a prominent feature, and the examination showed the results of systematic drill in recitation. Attendance excellent.

### DISTRICT No. 5.

O. C. Smith, . . . . . Committee.

Miss Myra S. Chatterton commenced her experience as a teacher in this district during the summer.



With a fair attendance, good methods of class drill, and a fair amount of oral instruction, the school passed a successful term.

There was a constant improvement in scholarship during the term.

Mrs. E. R. Dodge taught the fall and winter term. The teacher worked hard and succeeded well. A want of system was noticed at the commencement of the school, which was corrected later in the term. School work was all thoroughly done, and the lessons learned will be likely to be remembered. The best progress was made in reading, penmanship, and arithmetic. The attendance for the most part was good.

#### DISTRICT No. 6.

J. N. Davis, . . . . . Committee.

Only one term of school during the year, taught by Miss E. S. Putnam of Charlestown. The teacher's methods were good, and the only fault to be found with the school was in the attendance, which was quite poor. Oral methods of instruction, correct pronunciation, and attention to proper definition of words, were paramount among the means of making the school successful. Good order and good progress.

#### DISTRICT No. 8.

G. W. Hilliard, . . . . . Committee.

Miss Dora J. Hilliard taught the summer term. The school was quite small, but *punctuality* was the rule with hardly an exception. Grammar was taught orally, and the blackboard made of use in almost every study. The general management and progress of the school were excellent, and the classification better than for years.

Miss Myra S. Chatterton taught the fall term. The school was larger than during the summer, and with more classes. The instruction in arithmetic was very good; in

grammar, rather too much was undertaken to have the result quite satisfactory; in geography, the lessons were thoroughly learned. As a whole, the school was a profitable one.

Mr. A. W. Mitchell, of Lempster, closed the school year with a term of ten weeks in the winter. The teacher's methods were somewhat original and his system of conducting classes rather lax, but the general instruction was good. Classes in grammar and mathematics made the most advancement. The attendance was good, with a few exceptions, and the citizens showed a degree of interest highly commendable.

#### DISTRICT No. 9.

F. M. Metcalf, . . . . . Committee.

Miss Mary L. Upton taught both the summer and fall terms. The pupils were nearly all quite young, and the studies mostly elementary. The general behavior of the school, considering the number of little ones, was quite satisfactory. Very fair progress was made in all branches, and the smaller primary classes learned very rapidly. Some faults in *pronunciation* were noticed.

The winter term was under the instruction of Miss Ellen H. Rogers, of Marlow, making her third term in this district. Owing to sickness, the teacher was unable to finish the school, which closed without an examination, after being in session for eight weeks and two days. The attendance was good, and, judging from the teacher's report cards, I should say that the pupils were faithful in their studies and made good advancement.

#### DISTRICT No. 10.

G. W. Neal, . . . . . Committee.

Mrs. Emma L. Stowell taught both terms in this district, and was faithful and efficient in her duties, being ready to adopt new ideas and methods when found to be better than

old ones; the consequence was a steady improvement in system, method of instruction, and general management throughout the year. Classes in reading, grammar, and geography showed especially good progress. Rhetorical exercises and penmanship received a good amount of attention. The attendance was quite good.

#### DISTRICT No. 11.

John Fiske, . . . . . Committee.

Miss Clara E. Whidden, of Stratham, taught during the entire school year. The school in this district has usually been divided into two departments, but the present year has been kept under one management. The great number of classes, with their still greater diversity in rank, would have been an insurmountable obstacle to a teacher with less executive ability and slower methods; but Miss W. was fully equal to the work, and gave excellent satisfaction.

The progress was constant and uniform, order good, and the general plan of school work as good as any school in town. There were three terms of 29 weeks in all.

#### DISTRICT No. 12.

O. C. Holt, . . . . . Committee.

The summer term was taught by Miss Myrtie B. Symonds. The school was small, and rather poorly classified. The teacher was exact in discipline, systematic in conducting recitations, and thorough in giving instruction. *Completeness* was the motto of the school; and the results could not be other than satisfactory. The drill in *reading* was not equalled in any school in town.

At the examination, the old house was adorned with flowers and evergreen, as if making one last effort to appear gay and youthful before disappearing forever from our sight. Singing and oral instruction were a part of the regular school exercises, and added much to its general success.

Before the commencement of the winter term the old

school-house was entirely remodelled ; and, in place of an unsightly and totally unfit school-building, we have a neat, new, and tasty structure. Miss Ida J. Greene dedicated the new school-room ; and with a better classification than ever before, prompt and faithful pupils, and with good methods of instruction, No. 12 closed one of its most successful school years.

#### DISTRICT No. 13.

Alvah Smith, . . . . . Committee.

Miss Della G. Witt taught both terms in this district, making four terms in the same school.

The summer term was very small, and with few classes. In the winter there were more pupils and a larger variety of studies. The best attendance of any school in town, and as good progress. A good teacher and a good school.

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#### STATISTICS.

Length of summer schools, in weeks, 110.8 ; winter schools, 171.4 ; average length in weeks, 21.6. Number of schools whose average attendance is between six and twelve, 6 ; number whose average is less than six, 2. Number of schools furnished with maps, 13 ; globes, 7. Whole number of different scholars attending not less than two weeks, 220,—boys, 106 ; girls, 114. Average daily attendance in all the schools in town, 161. Number of scholars under six years of age, 17 ; over sixteen, 21 ; between six and sixteen, 182. Number of different scholars pursuing the "higher branches," 30. Number having no absences, 64. Number of male teachers, 1 ; female teachers, 20. Average wages of teachers per month, including board, \$20.

Number of official visits made by school committee, 77 ; prudential committees, 19 ; parents and citizens, 652.



## ROLL OF HONOR.

The following pupils have not been absent one day during any term of the entire school year which they have attended :

## No. 1.

Minnie E. Clark, Etta Chatterton, Gertie M. Chatterton, Minnie E. Chatterton, Jennie E. Potter, Mary S. Potter, Ida A. Potter, Hattie M. Murdough, Annie G. Neal, Alice L. Neal, Eva L. Strickland, Effie R. Dexter, Carrie F. Davis, William C. Prentiss, Carl Buswell, Alonzo Chatterton, Bertie J. Davis, Clinton H. Strickland, Grant C. Thornton, Arthur F. Strickland, Horace D. Prentiss.

## No. 2.

Hattie M. Blanchard, Mabel M. Osgood, Lizzie I. Parks, Fred L. Carr, Carl E. Smith.

## No. 3.

Walter Slader, Alice A. Forsyth.

## No. 4.

Lelia J. Clark, Alson H. Clark, Arthur E. Straw.

## No. 5.

Lucretia Young, Flora Sarsons.

## No. 8.

Fannie Merrill.

## No. 9.

Myrtie E. Reed, Eva C. Reed, Arthur Metcalf, Edward H. Reed, Elmer C. Comstock.

## No. 10.

Addie M. Brackett, Myrtie R. Mathewson, Charles L. Brackett, Robert M. Brackett, Reginald D. Brackett.

## No. 11.

Hattie Church, Nora Allan, Gertie R. Cummings, Belle E. Crossett, Addie Beard, Flora R. Fiske, Jessie R. Morrison, Mary L. Upton, Hattie L. Upton, Elroy Allan, Alexander Woodbury, Fred Graham, Algene A. Fiske.

## No. 12.

Mary J. Dickey, Annie D. Johnson, Elmer Newton, Thos. D. Miller, Edward W. Greene.

## No. 13.

Eva C. McLaughlin, Emma S. Hatch, Nellie F. McLaughlin, Frank A. Fifield, Julian E. Hemphill, Charlie McLaughlin.

Mabel E. Neal, of No. 10, and Olie M. Hilliard, of No. 8, were each absent one day on account of sickness.

## REMARKS AND SUGGESTIONS.

In reviewing the schools of Acworth for the past year, I find many things to praise, yet, since it is by criticising faults we may hope to correct them, I shall also point out certain features of school work wherein much may still be done to improve our present excellent standing.

In examining the statistics, it will be seen that we have had eight weeks more of school this year than last, ten more pupils registered, fourteen more pupils on the roll of honor, while the average attendance is a trifle less; also, with one less school we have employed only twenty-one teachers, against twenty-eight last year. With a single exception only female teachers have been employed, and in three districts the same teacher has taught the entire year, and in three other schools the same teacher has taught two successive terms.

This is certainly a step in the right direction, since the continuance of a teacher for successive terms is the highest

proof of her ability. In the future, hire only the *best* teachers, and retain them permanently in your schools.

I have required of the teachers a system of marking by report cards, and, as far as possible, a uniform method of school discipline and general management. Teachers' meetings were held during a portion of the year, which aided much in securing uniformity in school work. Particular attention has been given to grading schools, where practicable, and with good results.

About thirty-five dollars' worth of maps, globes, and other school apparatus has been furnished the different schools, and in No. 12 an old school-house has been rebuilt, so that now we have but one *really poor* school building in town.

An increase of interest on the part of parents and citizens is shown by the fact of there being one hundred and fifty more visits made to the schools this year than last.

In general the teachers have been ready to adopt suggestions, and have aided me materially in my efforts to secure better methods of instruction than formerly. While thanking the teachers for their efforts in this direction, I must call their attention to the fact, that, of the thirty terms of school reported by register, only fifteen were correctly reported, and of that number *I had previously corrected nine*. This is a gross negligence on the part of the teacher, and must be corrected. In the future, the school committee must insist upon the enforcement of the law that requires teachers to present certificates of a return of register, *correctly filled*, before drawing pay from the prudential committee; and prudential committees must remember that *they* are liable to fine for paying teachers without such certificates of return.

If I seem severe, let any one, who has never attempted it, undertake to compile the voluminous statistics required by the state superintendent from a lot of school registers where half the questions are unanswered and half the remainder answered incorrectly.

In closing this report, I would urge prudential committees to secure the services of former teachers, as far as possible, *where they have given satisfaction*. I would also urge parents and citizens to make more frequent visits to the school-room, that they may not take the evidence of others regarding the welfare of their children's education.

It is not too much to say of the schools of Acworth, that they are to-day better graded, better supplied with needed apparatus, under a better system of instruction, and stand higher in rank, than they did one year ago.

Hoping the coming year may be still more profitable, I would respectfully submit this my fifth annual report.

CARL A. ALLEN,  
*School Committee.*

Acworth, N. H., March 2, 1882.











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